

Date: 03/08/05

JFK ASSASSINATION SYSTEM  
IDENTIFICATION FORM

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AGENCY INFORMATION

AGENCY : CIA  
RECORD NUMBER : 104-10322-10231  
RECORD SERIES : JFK  
AGENCY FILE NUMBER : CIA-EXEC REG FILES

Released under the John  
F. Kennedy  
Assassination Records  
Collection Act of 1992  
(44 USC 2107 Note).  
Case#:NW 53217 Date:  
06-22-2017

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DOCUMENT INFORMATION

AGENCY ORIGINATOR : CIA  
FROM : TURNER. DIRECTOR  
TO : FAUNTROY/MOYNIHAN, CONGRESS  
TITLE : LETTERS:CORRESPONDENCE WITH MEMBERS OF CONGRESS RE  
ALLEGATION OF CIA USE OF JOURNALISTS  
DATE : 06/13/1977  
PAGES : 36  
  
SUBJECTS : ALLEGATIONS  
HSCA  
FAUNTROY  
  
DOCUMENT TYPE : PAPER  
CLASSIFICATION : UNCLASSIFIED  
RESTRICTIONS : 1A  
CURRENT STATUS : RELEASED IN PART PUBLIC - RELEASED WITH DELETIONS  
DATE OF LAST REVIEW : 03/24/99  
COMMENTS : JFK-M-13 : F7 : 1999.03.24.13:57:41:500120 : INCLUDES  
DRAFTS, MEMOS AND TRANSMITTAL SLIPS. FOLDER  
TITLE:I-101A (FORMER SPEC INTEREST FILE #8)

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[R] - ITEM IS RESTRICTED 104-10322-10231

The Director  
Central Intelligence Agency



Washington, D.C. 20505

Executive Registry

77-4700/5A

Spec Int F# 8

13 JUN 1977

OLC 77-2071/a

Honorable Walter E. Fauntroy  
House of Representatives  
Washington, D.C. 20515

Dear Mr. Fauntroy:

Thank you for your letter of 18 May 1977 relating to the journalists covering the work of the House Select Committee on Assassinations.

I endorse your conviction that a free press is essential to a free and democratic society. In keeping with that, let me reassure you that no U.S. journalist is employed by the Central Intelligence Agency.

You suggest that I should contact the editors of journalists covering your Committee who may have been associated with this Agency in the past. My predecessors have established a policy of not disclosing the names of persons who have cooperated with us. I am enclosing a copy of the Agency statement on the subject. I support that policy and will adhere to it. If any journalists on the list you refer to had had previous relations with this Agency, to notify their editors would be a violation of this policy. I hope you will understand our position on this matter.

Yours sincerely,

/s/ Stansfield Turner

STANSFIELD TURNER

Enclosure

Distribution:

Original - Addressee w/encl.

✓ 1 - ER w/encl.

1 - DDCI w/encl.

1 - DCI w/encl.

1 - Public Affairs Office/DCI w/encl.  
(Dennis Berend)

1 - OLC Subject w/encl.

1 - OLC Chrono w/o encl.

OLC:RJK:hms (re-typed 9 June 1977)

EXECUTIVE REGISTRY FILE

Spec Int F# 8



**CENTRAL INTELLIGENCE AGENCY**

WASHINGTON, D.C. 20505

**OFFICE OF THE DIRECTOR**

11 February 1976

Office of the Assistant to the Director

(703) 351-7676

(703) 687-6931 (night)

STATEMENT

Over the years, the CIA has had relationships with individuals in many walks of American life. These relationships, many of a voluntary and unpaid nature, have reflected the desire of Americans to help their country. Such relationships have been conducted by the Agency with the clear intent of furthering its foreign intelligence mission and have not been aimed at influencing or improperly acting on any American institution.

Genuine concern has recently been expressed about CIA relations with newsmen and churchmen. The Agency does not believe there has been any impropriety on its part in the limited use made of persons connected in some way with American media, church and missionary organizations. Nonetheless, CIA recognizes the special status afforded these institutions under our Constitution and in order to avoid any appearance of improper use by the Agency, the

DCI has decided on a revised policy to govern Agency relations with these groups:

-- Effective immediately, CIA will not enter into any paid or contractual relationship with any full-time or part-time news correspondent accredited by any U.S. news service, newspaper, periodical, radio or television network or station.

-- As soon as feasible, the Agency will bring existing relationships with individuals in these groups into conformity with this new policy.

-- CIA has no secret paid or contractual relationship with any American clergyman or missionary. This practice will be continued as a matter of policy.

CIA recognizes that members of these groups may wish to provide information to the CIA on matters of foreign intelligence of interest to the U.S. Government. The CIA will continue to welcome information volunteered by such individuals.

It is Agency policy not to divulge the names of cooperating Americans. In this regard CIA will not make public, now or in the future, the names of any cooperating journalists or churchmen.

The Director  
Central Intelligence Agency



Washington, D. C. 20505

Honorable Walter E. Fauntroy  
House of Representatives  
Washington, D. C. 20515

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You suggest that I should contact the editors of journalists covering your Committee who may have been associated with this Agency in the past. My predecessors have established a policy of not disclosing the names of persons who have cooperated with us. ~~Please note the final paragraph of the enclosed Agency statement on the subject.~~ I support and will adhere to that policy. If any journalists on the list you refer to had had previous relations with this Agency, to notify their editors would be a violation of this policy. I hope you will understand our position on this matter.

Yours sincerely,

STANSFIELD TURNER

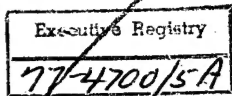
Enclosure

*ab 11 Feb 1976*  
*copy of the*  
*I am enclosing*  
*statement of the*

The Director  
Central Intelligence Agency



Washington, D. C. 20505



OLC 77-2071/a

Honorable Walter E. Fauntroy  
House of Representatives  
Washington, D. C. 20515

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Yours sincerely,

STANSFIELD TURNER

Enclosure  
Distribution:

Orig - Add'l w/encl	1 - Public Affairs Office/DCI (Dennis Berend)
1 - DCI w/encl	w/encl
1 - DDCI w/encl	1 - OLC Subject w/encl
✓ 1 - ER w/encl	1 - OLC Chrono w/o encl

OLC RJK:hms/ndl (6 June 1977)

UNCLASSIFIED

INTERNAL  
USE ONLY

CONFIDENTIAL

SECRET

## ROUTING AND RECORD SHEET

SUBJECT: (Optional)

FROM:

Legislative Counsel

EXTENSION

6121

NO.

DATE

6 June

TO: (Officer designation, room number, and building)

DATE

RECEIVED

FORWARDED

OFFICER'S  
INITIALS

COMMENTS (Number each comment to show from whom to whom. Draw a line across column after each comment.)

1.

DDCI

2.

DCI

Rec'd  
8 JUN  
1977

3.

Leg Counsel

5.

6.

7.

8.

9.

10.

11.

12.

13.

14.

15.

Attached for your signature is a response to Delegate Fauntroy's letter of 18 May which raises a question about the past association of journalists currently assigned to cover the House Select Committee on Assassinations.

George L. Cary  
George L. Cary

To 3 Phase  
phon m.  
Blanger  
J. G. G.

FORM  
3-62

610

USE PREVIOUS  
EDITIONS

SECRET

CONFIDENTIAL

INTERNAL  
USE ONLY

UNCLASSIFIED


## EXECUTIVE SECRETARIAT

## Routing Slip

TO:		ACTION	INFO	DATE	INITIAL
1	DCI		X		
2	DDCI		X		
3	D/DCI/IC				
4	DDS&T				
5	DDI				
6	DDA				
7	DDO		X		
8	D/DCI/NI				
9	GC				
10	LC	X			
11	IG				
12	Compt				
13	D/Pers				
14	D/S				
15	DTR				
16	Asst/DCI		X		
17	AO/DCI				
18	C/IPS				
19	DCI/SS				
20	D/EE0				
21					
22					
SUSPENSE		27 May 1977 Date			

Remarks:

Please prepare response for DCI signature.

  
 Rob Roy Ratliff  
 D/ Executive Secretary  
 20 May 77  
 Date

3637 (7-76)

RECEIVED MAY 27 1977  
 [Signature]  
 F.B.I.

WALTER E. FAUNTROY  
DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA

2441 RAYBURN HOUSE OFFICE BUILDING  
(202) 225-8050

DISTRICT OFFICE:  
GENERAL ACCOUNTING OFFICE BUILDING  
441 G STREET, N.W.  
SUITE 1002  
WASHINGTON, D.C. 20548  
(202) 275-0171

**Congress of the United States**  
**House of Representatives**  
**Washington, D.C. 20515**

May 18, 1977

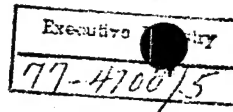
The Honorable Stansfield Turner  
Admiral, United States Navy  
The Director of Central Intelligence  
The Central Intelligence Agency  
Washington, D. C. 20505

Dear Admiral Turner:

Thank you for your kind letter of May 10, 1977, in response to my letter of April 25, 1977. It is reassuring to know that you share the view of former CIA Director William Colby that the now discontinued practice of the CIA employing journalists as undercover contacts, compromises the integrity of the free press in America and that you will not allow it in your administration either.

A free press, in my view, is essential to a free and democratic society. The despicable practice in totalitarian countries of employing government controlled journalists is as abhorrent to me as it is to the American Society of Newspaper Editors.

Pursuant to your kind offer of complete cooperation, may I ask you to inspect the list containing the names of forty journalists, to which Mr. Colby referred, and, if you find among the names journalists or feature writers who are presently covering the work of the House Select Committee on Assassinations, inform the appropriate editors of your findings. It would be appropriate, it seems to me, for you to encourage those editors to relieve such journalists from their assignments related to the assassination probes. I have no need to know the names of those on the list; I need only to be assured that those who served the CIA during and after the period under investigation by our Committee are not reporting or interpreting the activities of the Committee to the American public today.



*Spec Int F H 8*  
COMMITTEE ON  
DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA

SUBCOMMITTEES:  
FISCAL AND GOVERNMENT AFFAIRS  
ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT AND  
REGIONAL AFFAIRS

COMMITTEE ON  
BANKING, FINANCE AND  
URBAN AFFAIRS

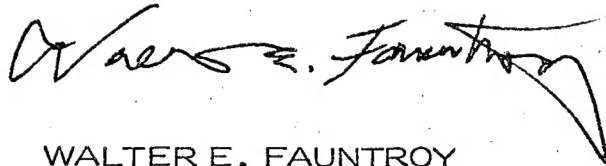
SUBCOMMITTEES:  
CHAIRMAN, HISTORIC PRESERVATION  
AND COINAGE  
HOUSING AND COMMUNITY  
DEVELOPMENT  
ECONOMIC STABILIZATION  
CONSUMER AFFAIRS

SELECT COMMITTEE ON  
ASSASSINATION  
CHAIRMAN, SUBCOMMITTEE ON  
MARTIN LUTHER KING, JR.

I know that you share my concern about the need for objective news reporting, and I look forward to hearing from you regarding this request.

Thank you for your time and consideration.

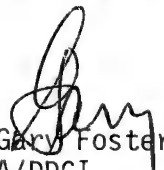
Sincerely yours,

A handwritten signature in dark ink, appearing to read "Walter E. Fauntroy". The signature is fluid and cursive, with a large, sweeping flourish at the end.

WALTER E. FAUNTROY  
Member of Congress

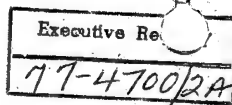
Gary  
I thanks for  
looking out for  
our interests.  
Seller is O.K with  
me except referen  
to Fainthorpe ltr  
of April 28 is <sup>fixed</sup>  
wrong should  
be 25th DCI  
Buck slip was 28th  
Glense

28

SENDER WILL CHECK CLASSIFICATION TOP AND BOTTOM			
UNCLASSIFIED	CONFIDENTIAL	SECRET	
OFFICIAL ROUTING SLIP			
TO	NAME AND ADDRESS	DATE	INITIALS
1	OLC	5-5	GB
2	EA/DDCI	5-6-77	GA
3			
4			
5			
6			
ACTION		DIRECT REPLY	PREPARE REPLY
APPROVAL		DISPATCH	RECOMMENDATION
COMMENT		FILE	RETURN
CONCURRENCE		INFORMATION	SIGNATURE
Remarks:			
<p>There is no record that you coordinated this with A/DCI for Public Affairs and they can't remember whether they called your office. Would you review this before we pass it on to the DCI.</p> <p> Gary Foster A/DDCI</p>			
FOLD HERE TO RETURN TO SENDER			
FROM: NAME, ADDRESS AND PHONE NO.			DATE
Gary Foster x-1733			4 May 77
UNCLASSIFIED	CONFIDENTIAL	SECRET	



Washington, D.C. 20505



10 MAY 1977

ERcy

Spec. Int.  
#  
8

Dear Mr. Fauntroy,

Thank you for your response of April 25.

While I cannot vouch for the attitudes of members of the press, I can only reiterate my assurances that there are no U.S. journalists employed by the Central Intelligence Agency, and that you have the most complete cooperation of this Agency with your investigation.

Yours sincerely,

STANSFIELD TURNER  
Admiral, U.S. Navy

The Honorable Walter E. Fauntroy  
United States House of Representatives  
Washington, D.C. 20515

DIST.

ORIG. ADDRESSEE

- OLC
- DDCi
- DCi
- Asst/DCi/PA
- ER via R.B.
- + DDO

EXHIBIT REISTRY FILE

Spec. Int. #8  
18

77-4700/2A

10 MAY 1977

Dear Mr. Fauntroy,

Thank you for your response of April 28 to my letter of April 25.

While I cannot vouch for the attitudes of members of the press, I can only reiterate my assurances that there are no U.S. journalists employed by the Central Intelligence Agency, and that you have the most complete cooperation of this Agency with your investigation.

Yours sincerely,

/s/ Stansfield Turner

STANSFIELD TURNER  
Admiral, U. S. Navy

The Honorable Walter E. Fauntroy  
United States House of Representatives  
Washington, D. C. 20515

# CIA OPERATIONS CENTER

## NEWS SERVICE

Date. 28 Apr

Item No. 6

Ref. No.

### DISTRIBUTION II

UP-088

(ASSASSINATIONS)

(BY GENE BERNHARDT)

WASHINGTON (UPI) - THE HOUSE ASSASSINATION COMMITTEE WON FULL HOUSE APPROVAL THURSDAY OF A \$2.5 MILLION BUDGET TO CONTINUE ITS INVESTIGATION INTO THE KILLINGS OF JOHN F. KENNEDY AND MARTIN LUTHER KING JR.

THE HOUSE VOTED 213-192 TO ADOPT THE BUDGET FOR THE COMMITTEE'S WORK THROUGH THIS YEAR, BUT ONLY AFTER THE PANEL CAME UNDER HEAVY CRITICISM.

"I WOULD HOPE WE COULD END THIS UNNECESSARY, WASTEFUL, COUNTERPRODUCTIVE EFFORT. THE JUSTICE DEPARTMENT SHOULD DO THE INVESTIGATING IF THAT IS NECESSARY," SAID REP. ROBERT BAUMAN, D-MD.

REP. JOHN DENT, D-PA., MANAGER OF THE FUNDING RESOLUTION, DEFENDED THE PANEL AND SAID "WE MUST PUT TO REST THE SURMISES, SURPRISES, GUESSES AND WISHES OF THOSE WHO WANT TO KEEP THE KETTLE BOILING" OVER WHETHER THERE WERE CONSPIRACIES IN THE TWO KILLINGS.

BAUMAN CRITICIZED DEL. WALTER FAUNTROY OF THE DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA, A MEMBER OF THE ASSASSINATION PANEL, FOR HIS COMMENTS THAT REPORTERS COVERING THE PANEL SHOULD BE INVESTIGATED TO DETERMINE WHETHER THEY ARE WORKING FOR THE CIA IN AN EFFORT TO DISCREDIT THE INVESTIGATION.

"THE COMMITTEE HAS NO PLANS TO CALL REPORTERS TO PROBE THEIR COVERAGE," SAID FAUNTROY. "I DO HAVE A PERSONAL INTEREST IN FINDING OUT WHETHER CERTAIN NEWS REPORTERS HAVE ANOTHER PURPOSE OTHER THAN DISSEMINATION OF THE NEWS TO THE PUBLIC."

FAUNTROY CITED A 1973 STORY IN THE WASHINGTON STAR-NEWS REPORTING THE CIA "HAD SOME 40 JOURNALISTS AS UNDERCOVER CONTACTS."

"ONE OF THOSE IDENTIFIED HAS BEEN ASSIGNED TO COVER OUR COMMITTEE. I WANT TO KNOW IF ANY OF THE OTHER 39 ARE COVERING OUR COMMITTEE," SAID FAUNTROY.

THE JOURNALIST CITED BY FAUNTROY WAS JEREMIAH O'LEARY, A REPORTER FOR THE STAR. THE NEWSPAPER SAID HE WAS NOT PAID BY THE CIA BUT ONLY PASSED ON INFORMATION HE PICKED UP DURING FOREIGN ASSIGNMENTS. O'LEARY IS PRESENTLY RECOVERING IN HOSPITAL FROM A HEART ATTACK.

UPI 04-28 02:45 PED

UP-088

3  
INTERNAL USE

4 Dec 1973

MEMORANDUM FOR THE RECORD

SUBJECT: Conversations with Oswald Johnston (26 November 1973) and David Kraslow (29 November 1973), Washington Star

1. I spoke to Mr. Johnston to follow up my talk with Mr. Newbold Noyes on 15 November 1973. Mr. Johnston said Mr. Noyes had asked him to come over to continue the discussion. I reiterated that I had visited Mr. Noyes to clarify a possible misapprehension in our luncheon of 27 September 1973. I essentially repeated much of what I had said to Mr. Noyes. We then discussed the matter somewhat more at length and I gave ball park figures of various categories of journalists with whom we had contact. (a) Staff journalists, (b) stringers or free lance, and (c) casual contacts. I pointed out that the staff journalists of significant journals were a very small number (3-5), plus perhaps 3-5 additional whose use had been approved by the management. I said there was an additional 10 or so with journals such as trade or industry journals of general utilization. I said that the total free lance stringers with whom we had varying degrees of association was in the area of 40. I said that we are in the course of terminating our relationship with the staff journalists category for significant publications. I said that any additional use of the other categories would be under high stringent control at the Deputy Director level.

2. It became obvious that Mr. Johnston was building toward a story. As a result, I telephoned to Mr. Newbold Noyes hoping to dissuade him from such a story. Mr. Noyes was in the hospital and I eventually ended up with Mr. Kraslow. To Mr. Kraslow I indicated that I was not concerned about myself or CIA being in any problem because of such a story but that I was concerned over a possible adverse impact on a substantial number of innocent individuals around the world who would be suspect and possibly abused by unfriendly local governments. I then said that I believed that Mr. Kraslow has a very serious responsibility to determine whether the value of the story warranted the harm it could do to such innocent people, although I, of course, recognized that he had every right to publish it. In the course of this

INTERNO USE ONLY

conversation, I corrected the figures given above to the following: (a) Three staff journalists actively used by CIA, (b) two staff journalists used by CIA known to their management, (c) eight staff members of trade or similar journals of minor significance, not necessarily known to management, (d) 25 stringers or free lancers used in varying degree by CIA, running from full use to occasional support payments. A final category was mentioned of normal contacts for exchange of information and views but without any financial support, as to whose number I had no idea. I said that the one individual whose name had come up as associated with the Star was in the last category and that we had his name merely because we had to give our own people the source of the information we had obtained from him from time to time in our exchange of views. Mr. Kraslow indicated that he would probably be running a story and I stressed that I had undertaken these talks with him on my original ground rules, i.e., the information is theirs but no sourcing to myself or CIA. Mr. Kraslow said that they wanted to run a favorable account of our intentions re journalists (flattery will get you lots of places), but I reiterated my concern that any such article could only do harm to innocent individuals not on our lists. He indicated that his personal view was that we should stay away from all categories; I commented over the negative aspects of being barred from the Peace Corps, Fulbrighters, USIA, USAID soon, etc., etc., which drew little sympathy. He tried to talk about future informal association with me but I reacted rather coolly to this idea.

WEC

W. E. Colby  
Director

WEC:jlp (30 Nov 1973)

Distribution:

- Original - DCI
- 1 - DDCI
- 1 - DDO
- 1 - DDI
- 1 - Mr. Thuermer
- 1 - ER

INTERNO USE ONLY

TRANSMITTAL SLIP		DATE
TO: <i>Ex. Reg.</i>		
ROOM NO.	BUILDING	
REMARKS:		
FROM:		
ROOM NO.	BUILDING	EXTENSION

FORM NO. 241  
1 FEB 55

REPLACES FORM 36-8  
WHICH MAY BE USED.

(47)

77-4700/4

3 May 1977

MEMORANDUM FOR: Director of Central Intelligence

THROUGH : Deputy Director of Central Intelligence

FROM : Herbert E. Hetu  
Assistant to the Director (Public Affairs)

REFERENCE : Rep. Fauntroy's Letter of 25 April 1977

1. In connection with the clippings forwarded by Mr. Fauntroy, we are attaching a memorandum of 4 December 1973 which explains how the information concerning journalists affiliated at that time with the Agency became public. The memorandum, signed by Mr. Colby, also outlines the attempts by Mr. Colby to get the Star to defer publication of the information.

2. DDO in fact has a list of 51 persons which was prepared for Mr. Colby, dated 16 October 1973. These include employees, agents, and collaborators.

3. In Mr. Fauntroy's letter he makes it clear that he is not referring to any relationships of the Agency today and expresses his confidence that you will not permit a recurrence of past "misdeeds." His concern is about "the past relationship of certain journalists to the CIA," which seems to indicate he is concerned about some lingering loyalty on contacts.

4. We therefore recommend that only a brief acknowledgment should be sent, if indeed you feel one is required at all.

  
Herbert E. Hetu

2  
IMP-DET CL R-686801

TO:

		ACTION	INFO.			ACTION	INFO.
1	DCI			11	LC		X
2	DDCI		X	12	IG		
3	S/MC			13	Compt		
4	DDS&T			14	Asst/DCI	X	
5	DDI			15	AO/DCI		
6	DDM&S			16	Ex/Sec		
7	DDO		X	17			
8	D/DCI/IC			18			
9	D/DCI/NIO			19			
10	GC			20			

SUSPENSE

Date

Executive Registry

77-4700/3

Remarks:

To 14:

Herb:

Do you know what journalist he is referring to? Perhaps we should clarify with Congressman Fauntroy. Please draft acknowledgment in coordination with OLC and others as appropriate.

28 DCI/DDCI  
JAN 1977

EXECUTIVE REGISTRY FILE Spec. Int F#8

2441, RAYBURN HOUSE OFFICE BUILDING  
(202) 225-8050

DISTRICT OFFICE:  
GENERAL ACCOUNTING OFFICE BUILDING  
441 G STREET, NW.  
SUITE 1002  
WASHINGTON, D.C. 20548  
(202) 275-0171

Congress of the United States  
House of Representatives  
Washington, D.C. 20515

April 25, 1977

Executive Registry

77-4760/2

COMMITTEE ON  
DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA

SUBCOMMITTEES:  
FISCAL AND GOVERNMENT AFFAIRS  
ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT AND  
REGIONAL AFFAIRS

COMMITTEE ON  
BANKING, FINANCE AND  
URBAN AFFAIRS

SUBCOMMITTEES:  
CHAIRMAN, HISTORIC PRESERVATION  
AND COINAGE  
HOUSING AND COMMUNITY  
DEVELOPMENT  
ECONOMIC STABILIZATION  
CONSUMER AFFAIRS  
SELECT COMMITTEE ON  
ASSASSINATION  
CHAIRMAN, SUBCOMMITTEE ON  
MARTIN LUTHER KING, JR.

The Honorable Stansfield Turner  
Admiral, United States Navy  
The Director of Central Intelligence  
The Central Intelligence Agency  
Washington, D. C. 20505

Dear Admiral Turner:

I am in receipt of your letter regarding recent media reports about statements made by me concerning the House Assassinations Committee and the role of certain journalists. I wish to make clear that my statements did not refer, and were not intended to refer, to the present Central Intelligence Agency.

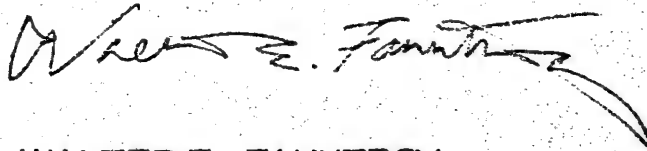
I do consider it noteworthy, however, that on November 30, 1973, the Washington Star-News reported that the CIA employed some forty journalists who doubled as undercover contacts (see article enclosed herewith). Further, on December 1, 1973, the Washington Post carried a similar article, which is also enclosed. It is also noteworthy that one of the journalists named in these reports is covering the assassinations probe for one of our most widely read newspapers. While I am a strong supporter and advocate of hard, factual news coverage, I am concerned that some of the news reports have been unfair and without bases. Some of the reports, it seems, have been designed to discourage the probe by the House. I simply want to be certain that there is no connection between the manner in which news is reported, and the past relationship of certain journalists to the CIA.

I believe you will agree that it is a sad and dangerous commentary on our news delivery system if those charged with informing the public have personal interests at stake.

I am hopeful that this letter is responsive to the concerns expressed in your letter. I feel confident that you are doing an excellent job and that past misdeeds by the CIA will not be repeated under your able leadership.

If you have further inquiries, please feel free to contact me.

Sincerely yours,

A handwritten signature in dark ink, appearing to read "Walter E. Fauntroy". The signature is fluid and cursive, with a long, sweeping underline that extends to the right.

WALTER E. FAUNTROY  
Member of Congress

Enclosure

# Journalists Doubling as CIA Contacts

By Oswald Johnston

Star News Staff Writer

The Central Intelligence Agency has some three dozen American journalists working abroad on its payroll as undercover informants. ~~Some of them are full-time agents; the~~ Star-News has learned.

After CIA director William E. Colby ordered a review of the practice two months ago, agency officials found the names of some 40 ~~journalists~~ reporters, freelance journalists and correspondents for trade publications in their files

as regular undercover contacts who supplied information to agents in the field and who are regularly paid for their services.

The use of foreign correspondents by the CIA has been quietly suspected — and feared — for years by legitimate reporters who have worked overseas. But the suspicion has never been verifiable until now. The facts were made known by an authoritative source.

The continuing extent of the practice and its wide scope, which is believed to have been scaled down since the Cold War tensions of the

1950s, was apparently a surprise even to Colby, who last month ordered a significant cutback in the CIA relationship with journalists connected with major news organizations.

NO LONGER to remain on the agency payroll is the ~~entire category of~~ ~~journalist agents~~ whose continued existence could be ~~questioned~~ ~~by a congressional committee~~ ~~of the American~~ ~~pressing general and possibly cripple its ability to~~ ~~do much of its work~~.

To be phased out is a small group of no more

than five full-time staff correspondents with general-circulation news organizations who function as undercover contacts for the CIA and are paid for their services on a regular contractual basis.

It is understood that three of these agents have maintained their CIA contacts without the knowledge of the news organizations involved, but that the CIA sideline of the other two is known to their civilian employers.

See CIA, A-10

## Washington Star-News

121st Year. No. 334

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The Evening Star Newspaper Co.

S WASHINGTON, D. C., FRIDAY, NOVEMBER 30, 1973 — 84 PAGES

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DRY SPELL—Fair tonight, low in 30s. Mostly sunny tomorrow, high in low 50s. Details, P-8.

# Newsman Supply Data to CIA

~~The Central Intelligence Agency has been paying more than 100 news correspondents abroad for part-time or full-time services.~~

This was determined by CIA Director William E. Colby as the result of a survey of undercover agents spurred by recent congressional inquiries into possible domestic operations of the agency.

Colby has reportedly decided to remove from the CIA payroll a small number of ~~time news correspondents~~ with whom the agency had contracted for services, according to authoritative sources.

But it is understood that he plans to retain the services of the majority of the journalists, who are not associated with major publications but function under various reporting covers.

The CIA director was reported to be out of town yesterday on official business and agency spokesmen would not comment officially on the report, published in the Washington Star-News. It was independently confirmed, however, by knowledgeable officials.

Rep. Lucien Nedzi (D-Mich.), chairman of the House Armed Services Subcommittee on Intelligence, said yesterday he would make inquiries into the practice of paying journalists or intelligence services.

"I can't say I'm really surprised," Nedzi said of the disclosure. "I suppose the real problem was whether the press was being used to peddle a certain line. To it was an arrangement for gathering of intelligence. I find it difficult to see much wrong with it."

So far, the only two journalists' names that have emerged from the CIA's file, belong to a smaller group of perhaps a dozen correspondents with whom the agency has maintained informal, unpaid, working relationships. One is former ~~Parade~~ columnist Seymour M. Hersh, who was implicated as a

~~supplier of information to the Nixon campaign in 1972. The other is Star-News correspondent O'Leary, as reported in the Star-News story.~~

O'Leary was mentioned in a category of newsmen who occasionally exchange information with CIA officials in the routine performance of journalistic duties without any monetary considerations.

Interviews with CIA station chiefs or lesser officials in overseas posts are not uncommon practices for correspondents of most major publications in the performance of their news-gathering functions. Normally, however, it is not considered part of the journalistic function to provide information to government agents.

Several former CIA operatives expressed surprise at the number of newsmen Colby discovered on the agency's current payroll. "It's quite a bit more than I would have expected," said one CIA veteran who now monitors agency activities on Capitol Hill.

The majority of this group, some two dozen, were determined to be operating under the cover of freelance journalists or "stringers" (correspondents not on the regular staffs of publications) working in foreign posts.

In 1967, the agency was wracked by a massive series of disclosures that it was underwriting activities of book publishers, magazines, student and cultural organizations and trade unions, including the American Newspaper Guild.

In the aftermath of those revelations the CIA was understood to have withdrawn from covert financing of such organizations as well as from a network of foundation conduits through which the money was channeled.

More recently, agency officials

have been questioned by congressional oversight committees—in the aftermath of the Watergate scandal—about CIA involvement in domestic activities. Several bills have been proposed designed to curtail domestic operations of the CIA.

There have, however, been no recent revelations of CIA penetration of domestic institutions comparable to the scale of those uncovered in the late 1960s.

Sources refused to identify any of the reporters involved, but it is understood that none of the five agents who are being cut off were regular staff correspondents of major American daily newspapers with regular overseas bureaus.

COLBY IS understood to have ordered the termination of this handful of journalist-agents in the full realization that CIA employment of reporters in a nation which prides itself on an independent press is a subject fraught with controversy.

Nevertheless, he has approved explicitly the continued maintenance of more than 30 other CIA agents abroad who are not strictly newsmen but who rely on some kind of journalistic "cover" for their intelligence operations.

Among those to be maintained is by far the largest category of journalist-agents: A group consisting of about 25 operatives scattered across the globe who appear to the world as freelance magazine writers, "stringers" for newspapers, news-magazines and news services, and itinerant authors. (A stringer is a journalist, usually self-employed, who offers news dispatches on a piece-work basis to news organizations which do not have regular staff members in the stringer's city.)

Agents in this category are not regularly identified with any single publication, and most of them are full-time informants who frankly use their writing or reporting as cover for their presence in a foreign city. Most of them are American citizens.

MOST ARE paid directly and regularly for services rendered, but a few of these semi-independent freelance writers occasionally draw on CIA funds to pay out-of-pocket expenses for trips in which the agency had an interest or for entertaining a useful contact.

A second group of overseas correspondents whom Colby intends to keep on the payroll consists of eight writers for small, limited-circulation specialty publications, such as certain types of trade journals or commercial newsletters. It is understood that most in this group operate as paid CIA informants with the approval of their employers.

Colby also intends to keep

many reporters working at home and abroad and editors who for their part maintain regular contact with CIA officials in the routine performance of their journalistic duties.

No money changes hands under these relationships, either as occasional payment or as reimbursement for expenses. In general, the relationship is limited to occasional lunches, interviews or telephone conversations during which information would be exchanged or verified. Each side understands that the other is pursuing only his own tasks.

IN SUCH a relationship, the reporter would be free to use the information he gained in a news story, and occasionally the CIA agent might make use of what he has learned from the reporter. Very likely, the CIA official would report the gist of his conversations with the reporter to his superiors, orally or in a written memo.

In this group, sources indicated, the CIA includes Star-News reporter Jeremiah O'Leary whose name apparently found its way into agency files as a result of contacts of this professional type during assignment overseas for the Star-News.

(Star-News editors have discussed this matter with O'Leary and other sources and have found no evidence to suggest that either he or this newspaper has been compromised.)

Veteran intelligence operatives are understood to look with mixed feelings on Colby's decision to break off CIA contacts with legitimate full-time correspondents.

On the one hand, journalists operate under conditions that, in the eyes of a professional spy, provide a natural "cover," combined with unusually good access to people and places abroad that would be unavailable to persons in other professions.

THE USE of journalist-agents is known to be widespread in Communist-bloc countries where the press is government-controlled, and during the 1950's the Tass correspondent who was also a Soviet agent was almost proverbial.

At the same time, agency officials are known to recognize that CIA penetration of the American press, if discovered or even suspected to exist on a wide scale, would further damage the CIA's shaky public image at home and could seriously compromise the reputation of the American press.

For both of these reasons, sources were extremely reluctant to give any details of the operations in which journalist-agents were involved or to discuss their assignments in any but the most general way. Sources who verified the existence of the practice refused to reveal how much the agents were paid or where they have been deployed.

Colby himself is thought

time staff correspondents for general news-gathering organizations.

DURING his Senate confirmation hearings last summer, Colby promised in the aftermath of the Watergate-related disclosures of domestic political espionage that he would take pains to operate "an American intelligence agency" — that is, one with operations compatible with a democratic society.

Colby's cutback on CIA use of the press is understood to have been governed by that promise.

Nevertheless, Colby has privately justified past use of the news media as agency cover by stressing that newsmen operatives were not as a rule used as vehicles for planting propaganda.

As a matter of standard operating procedure, sources insist, an agent operating under cover as a freelance writer or as a staff correspondent for a newspaper or news agency almost never had his news stories or articles "critiqued" by his case officer.

While propaganda admittedly has been an important part of clandestine CIA operations abroad, that function has been kept separate from the routine running of agents, even though both assignments belonged to the agency's Clandestine Services, under the Operations directorate.

ACCORDINGLY, the extensive network of dummy foundations through which the CIA was revealed in 1967 to have funneled cash to such publications as Encounter magazine or such organizations as the American Newspaper Guild was not related to the use of newsmen or writers as intelligence operatives in the field.

If anything, the use of newsmen in this way seems to have been carried out at the discretion of station chiefs abroad, with little or no central oversight.

Until late last summer, neither Colby himself nor the top officials in the Operations directorate had any precise information on how many clandestine agents were currently operating under journalistic cover.

During September, in the aftermath of revelations that the Nixon administration used journalists as paid political spies during the 1968 and 1972 presidential campaigns, and in response to queries from the press, Colby ordered an in-house investigation within the Clandestine Services to find out exactly what the situation was.

The specific impetus for the press inquiries, which in turn spurred Colby to order the Operations directorate to search its files, was the published disclosure that Seymour K. Friedin, a political spy for the 1972 Nixon campaign, regularly passed information to the CIA when work

The Director of Central Intelligence

Washington, D.C. 20505

Executive Registry

77-4200/

25 APR 1977

The Honorable Daniel P. Moynihan  
United States Senate  
Washington, D.C. 20510

Dear Senator Moynihan,

Thank you for bringing my attention yesterday to the article about Delegate Fauntroy. I am sorry that I had not read it. I have done so since and enclose a copy of my immediate reaction to it.

In our conversation yesterday, I failed to thank you for your significant and helpful contribution to the discussions at our hearing on the Edmund P. Wilson case last Friday. I certainly thought that you put your finger on the problem when you pointed out that if the CIA does not get ahead of these issues which are raised in the public forum we may lose the great value which the intelligence agency can provide to our country. I had your thought very much in front of me all weekend as I worked to resolve this particular problem.

Thanks.

Yours sincerely,

/s/ Stansfield Turner

STANSFIELD TURNER  
Admiral, U.S. Navy

25 APR 1977

The Honorable Walter E. Fauntroy  
United States House of Representatives  
Washington, D.C. 20515

Dear Mr. Fauntroy,

I read in yesterday's Washington Post that you believe it possible that some U.S. journalists are in fact CIA agents and engaged in a conspiracy to frustrate the work of your House Assassinations Committee.

Let me assure you that there are no working U.S. journalists employed by the Central Intelligence Agency.

Let me further assure you in the most unequivocal terms that I will not tolerate any actions by any members of the Central Intelligence Agency to impede your investigation. On the contrary, you will have our most complete cooperation. Please advise me personally if there is any way in which you feel this is not being done.

Yours sincerely,

/s/ Stansfield Turner

STANSFIELD TURNER  
Admiral, U.S. Navy

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NW 53217 DocId:32403785 Page 1

MEMORANDUM FOR: Admiral Turner ✓

*24524*

I did not want to distribute this until you  
had seen it, but suggest you do so as reflected  
in the attached routing slip for your initials.

*[Signature]*  
28 APR 1977

*[Signature]*  
BCEvans

Date 27 April 1977

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			DATE	25 April 1977
(Officer designation, room number, and ing)	DATE	RECEIVED	FORWARDED	OFFICER'S INITIALS
DDO				<i>William H. H. H. H.</i>
Chief, CCS	25 APR 1977			<i>See a memo</i>
A/DCI/PA				<i>H. E. (as amended)</i>
Inspector General				<i>(concur last today)</i>
DDCI	25 APR 1977			<i>not in building - FA/DOCI concurs</i>
DCI				<i>See Int F #8</i>

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The Director of Central Intelligence

Washington, D.C. 20505

Executive Registry

77-4700

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Washington, D.C. 20510

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Admiral, U.S. Navy

The Director of Central Intelligence

Washington, D.C. 20505

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/s/ Stansfield Turner

STANSFIELD TURNER  
Admiral, U.S. Navy

Tape A-14, Beginning

BLIND CC TO SENATOR MOYNIHAN

CDR McMahon ✓

Mr. Evans

LCDR Kieleley

Sgt. Moore *[Signature]*

CENTRAL INTELLIGENCE AGENCY

OFFICE OF THE DIRECTOR

25 April 1977

Gay:

Attached is a copy of the letter which should have been attached to Senator Moynihan's.

Sorry about the inconvenience.

A handwritten signature in cursive script, appearing to read "Debbie Geer".

Debbie Geer

The Director of Central Intelligence

Washington, D.C. 20505

Executive Registry

77-4700/1

The Honorable Daniel P. Moynihan  
United States Senate  
Washington, D.C. 20510

Dear Senator Moynihan,

Thank you for bringing my attention yesterday to the article about Delegate Fauntroy. I am sorry that I had not read it. I have done so since and enclose a copy of my immediate reaction to it. I must say, in all candor, that I was not unduly alarmed upon reading it. Perhaps I have just become inured to the almost daily accusations in our press that the CIA is at the bottom of all manner of ills.

I would also say that if Delegate Fauntroy has serious suspicions that members of the media are subverting his investigation, I believe it quite proper that he conduct a legal inquiry. I will be more than happy to support him with full information on the role of the CIA in the past and today. I do not believe that any segment of our society, even the media, should be privileged to stand above legitimate legislative inquiry.

In our conversation yesterday, I failed to thank you for your significant and helpful contribution to the discussions at our hearing on the Edmund P. Wilson case last Friday. I certainly thought that you put your finger on the problem when you pointed out that if the CIA does not get ahead of these issues which are raised in the public forum we may lose the great value which the intelligence agency can provide to our country. I had your thought very much in front of me all weekend as I worked to resolve this particular problem.

Thanks.

Yours sincerely,

STANSFIELD TURNER  
Admiral, U.S. Navy

Enc.

4-25-77

Admiral —

I would suggest taking  
out last 2 sentences of para 1  
and all of para 2 — they  
sound mod — all we need is

a statement/ltr. signed by you  
(CIA)  
saying we/would be happy to  
assist Fawcett in investigating  
the press — Oh my . . . .

Herl

(revised letter attached)